



Climate Smart Kingston Commission
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401
(845) 481-7339

DRAFT Minutes to the Climate Smart Kingston Commission Meeting, October 26, 2016
Kingston City Hall, Council Chambers 4:30-6:00 PM

Commission Members (Voting): Azriel Alleyne, Elizabeth Broad, Pat Courtney Strong, Michael D'Arcy, Emilie Hauser, Nick Hvozda (excused), Kevin McEvoy (Secretary), Sarina Pepper (excused), Karen Sullivan, John Wackman

Commission Members (Non-Voting):

Nolan Bastianelli (not present), Casey Schwarz (excused), Amanda LaValle (Ulster County Dept of the Environment; excused)

Ex-Officio Members: Suzanne Cahill (Kingston Planning Dept. excused), Brenna Robinson (Kingston Community & Economic Development), Julie Noble (Kingston Parks & Recreation, Commission Chairperson), NYS Assembly Member Kevin Cahill (represented by Jillian Nodiak, not present), Kingston Common Council (not present), Kingston City Engineer (not present), Joe Chenier (Kingston Dept. of Public Works, not present)

Guests: Europa McGovern (Hudson Valley Regional Council), Lynn Ferrara

- I. Welcome Guests and Public Comment:** The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 4:36PM. There was no public comment at this time.
- II. Review and Approval August and September 2016 Meeting Minutes:** Upon motion duly made by Commissioner D'Arcy and seconded by Commissioner Pat Courtney Strong, the minutes to the August meeting as amended were approved unanimously by the voting commissioners present. Upon motion made by Commissioner D'Arcy and seconded by Commissioner Betta Broad, the voting commissioners present unanimously resolved to table the September minutes.
- III. Old Business**
 - a. Energy and Renewables**
 - i. Residential Energy Efficiency Campaign Working Group** (*M. D'Arcy*): Report resulted in no motions made and no resolutions presented.
 - ii. Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) Inventory/Energy Tracking Working Group** (*N. Hvozda*): Nick provided more information comparing 2010 from the Climate Action Plan data against 2015 data from the City Comptroller including data regarding electricity, heating fuel, transportation fuel; total GHG emissions in metric tons of CO₂e. Emission type breakdown charts were provided.
 - iii. Wendell Flex Tech Study Review** (*A. Alleyne*): It was reported that municipal audits are to be done on City Hall and the fire stations.
 - iv. Municipal Street Light Consortium, LED funding** (*P. Courtney Strong*): It was reported that LED lighting would have to be at the halfway point to count as a high impact item with respect to the Clean Energy Communities program. Activity in other communities was reported including Westchester, which already owns their streetlights. Jen Metzger is reviewing and commenting on data provided by utilities.
 - v. NYS Solar Permitting Progress** (*M.DArcy*): Commissioner Mike D'Arcy gave an update. Unified permit still needs to be reviewed with Heritage and Landmarks Commissions. Europa McGovern discussed the new revised expedited solar permit being released. Commissioner McEvoy discussed standards for solar installation in historic districts and properties subject to architectural reviews.
 - vi. CCA (Community Choice Aggregation) Working Group Update** (*B. Broad*): Commissioner Betta Broad reported on the CCA Working Group. Commissioners Mike D'Arcy, and Pat Courtney Strong together with Chairperson Julie Noble have attended the meetings. The process from other

CCA programs such as the one in Westchester County is being reviewed. Community Choice Aggregation is another high impact action with respect to the Clean Energy Communities program.

- vii. **Clean Energy Communities Program update:** Europa McGovern gave a presentation on New York State's Clean Energy Community designation and completing four of the ten high impact items. See link below for further information:

<https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Clean-Energy-Communities/Become-a-Clean-Energy-Community>

<https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Clean-Energy-Communities/Action-Items>

b. **Land Use and Transportation**

- i. **Zoning Code Recommendations Review** (*K. McEvoy*): Commissioner McEvoy gave a brief report on zoning language. No motions were made and no resolutions presented.
- ii. **Natural Resources Inventory Update** (*J. Noble*): Chairperson Julie Noble reported on the October 15 NRI tour with John Mickelson.

c. **EV Infrastructure and Vehicles** (*A. LaValle*): Chairperson Julie Noble gave a brief report.

d. **Materials Management**

- i. **Plastic Bag Law update** (*A. LaValle/B. Broad*): Commissioners Betta Broad and Emilie Hauser discussed possible legislation at the County level. No motions were made and no resolutions presented regarding support letter.
- ii. **Solid Waste Management Improvement Commission** (*J. Noble*): Tabled

e. **Sustainable Resource Management**

- i. **Green Infrastructure in Parking Lots** (*J. Noble*): Chairperson Julie Noble reported on a recent site visit that was conducted by Emily Vail and Engineer Ralph Swenson regarding the installation of the green infrastructure techniques.

f. **Outreach, Education and Training**

- i. **Common Council Liaison** (*M. D'Arcy*): Commissioner Mike D'Arcy will be contacting Council Member At Large Jim Noble regarding attending the Public Safety Committee meetings as a liaison to the Climate Smart Kingston Commission.
- ii. **Kingston Earth Fair and Expo planning**: Chairperson Julie Noble reported that April 22, 2017 has been announced as the date for the event. Commissioners Betta Broad, John Wackman, Mike D'Arcy and Azriel Alleyne together with Brenna Robinson will form a planning committee to represent the commission at the event as an action item.

g. **Ulster County Climate Smart Committee** (*B. Broad*): Commissioner Betta Broad has received a letter of appointment as City representative to the Ulster County Climate Smart Committee. Commissioner Azriel Alleyne represents the Town of Kingston.

h. **Adaptation and Resilience**

- i. **Fall Climate Adaptive Design Studio Update** (*Noble/McEvoy/Hauser*): Chairperson Julie Noble discussed designs presented by Cornell students at Hudson River Maritime Museum on October 17.
- ii. **Sea Level Rise Implementation Learning Group Update** (*Noble/McEvoy/Hauser*): The first session is to be held at November 10 at Long Dock Beacon with Scenic Hudson.

IV. **New Business: Water Conservation, source water quantity conditions**: Drought conditions were discussed. A water conservation alert was issued earlier in October since Cooper Lake reservoir is presently at 70%. It appears that water consumption may have increased since the issuance of the alert.

V. **Announcements/Communications/Events:**

- a. **Solarize**: The campaign's next phase will roll out on February 2nd, 2017.
- b. **Midtown Arts District**: Event is to be held on 10-27.
- c. **Public Comment**: Lynn Ferrara discussed communications and messaging with the commissioners.

VI. **Adjournment**: 6:13pm Upon motion made by Commissioner Mike D'Arcy and seconded by Commissioner Karen Sullivan, the voting commissioners present unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting at 6:13PM.

Vision: *The City of Kingston will be a 'Model City' of energy, environmental and economic sustainability by 2020 within city government operations and throughout the community.*